

Aue Stagecoach Inn and Complex,
Max Aue Log House
Boerne Stage Road, Interstate 10
Leon Springs
Bexar County
Texas

HABS No. TX-3220 B

HABS
TEX
IS-1834,
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PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

AUE STAGECOACH INN AND COMPLEX,
MAX AUE LOG HOUSE

HABS No. TX-3220B

Location: Boerne Stage Road, Interstate 10, Leon Springs, Bexar
County, Texas.

Present Owner: The Aue Family.

Present Occupant: --Tenants.

Significance: This log house is one of the few still in existence in the area and because of its good state of preservation is an excellent model for the study of vernacular building practices on the Texas nineteenth century frontier. Its significance is further enhanced by its historical associations as a part of an early stagecoach station complex.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Circa 1855.
2. Original and subsequent owners: In 1852 Max Aue purchased land on which the structure stands. It has been in the Aue family ever since.

B. Historical Context: See Aue Stagecoach Inn, HABS No. TX-3220.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: The building is a plain stuccoed log structure with a "dog-run" floor arrangement.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair. The stucco is in need of repair, but the walls are basically sound.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The one-story building measures approximately 27' x 57', including the porch and the additions.
2. Foundations: The foundation walls are rubble stone under stone walls. The log construction walls apparently rest on rubble walls on grade.

3. Walls: The central portion constitutes the log cabin. The walls are constructed of unfashioned logs, ranging from 5 to 7 inches in diameter, projecting slightly but evenly beyond simple notched corners. The interstices are filled with small stones and mud or adobe chinking, and the whole wall is stuccoed with dung and straw over which has been applied a light coat of yellowish-orangish lime and sand stucco. Walls of the north lean-to addition are coursed rubble and of the east extension are coursed rubble, stuccoed.
4. Structural system, framing: Interior inaccessible. Wooden floors were seen.
5. Porch: A five-bay porch extends across the front (south) facade, supported by plainly fashioned log posts. The ceiling is tongue-and-groove boards, and the floor is dirt with a narrow board walk next to the building.
6. Chimneys: Two stone chimneys with metal caps are at the west gable end and near the east wall of the 1878 house's shed addition, respectively.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The front (south) elevation has two doors. One at the east has two large panels-over-two small panels. The other door at the west has four glazed panels at the top and two solid panels at the bottom. The middle room of the log cabin portion has its south wall enclosed by a miscellaneous collection of sash and doors.
 - b. Windows: All windows are double-hung sash with 6/6 lights.
8. Roof: Gable with slope broken at plate lines where it flattens out and extends over porch and lean-to, respectively. Gable ends have a 6-inch projection. Originally shingled, the roof is now metal clad, V-lap.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The log cabin portion appears to be a "dog run" house characteristic of the region at the time of first settlement. It is made up of two log cabins and an open roofed space between them. The latter is called a breezeway. This "dog run" is rectangular in plan. To the front of the resulting long building a porch has been added, and to the rear (north) a lean-to with stone walls. Along the south are three rooms. To the east of these, and in line, is another room, which is of stone construction. All the south rooms interconnect, and connect in turn with the shed of the two-story 1878 building.

2. Flooring: The floors of the log cabin portion and the breezeway have tongue-and-groove boards. The floor of the lean-to was not accessible.
3. Walls: The walls are plastered. The ceilings are of tongue-and-groove boards.
4. Doorways and doors: Door trim is wide and flat with a molding at the outer edges. Doors are of wood four-panel type. In one case the middle rail is at mid height, and in the other at lower than mid height.
5. Mechanical equipment:
 - a. Heating: Not visible.
 - b. Lighting: None.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: The building faces south with its long axis east to west. Situated on property bounded on the east by Fredericksburg Road and on the west by the Boerne Stage Road, now an access road for I-10, the house is part of a complex of three buildings with additions. The site is largely overgrown and unkempt. To the south of the house are a water tower, a windmill and a privy.

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Bibliography:

Deed records, Bexar County Courthouse, San Antonio, Texas.
H2/472-473; K2/155, 166, 176; L2/144; X194, 95.

Records of the Aue family.

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Historic American Buildings Survey
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PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

The San Antonio project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in the summer of 1968, and was made possible with funds from HABS and two sponsors, the Bexar County Historical Survey Committee and the San Antonio Conservation Society. Under the direction of James Massey, Chief of HABS, the project was carried out by Wesley I. Shank (Iowa State University), project supervisor, and by student assistant architects, Charles W. Barrow (University of Texas); Les Beilinson (University of Miami); William H. Edwards (University of Illinois); and Larry D. Hermesen (Iowa State University) at the HABS field office in the former Ursuline Convent buildings, San Antonio. John C. Garner, Jr., director of Bexar County Architecture Survey, did the outside work on the written documentaries. Susan McCown, a HABS staff historian in the Washington, D.C. office, edited the written data in 1983, for preparation of transmittal to the Library of Congress. Dewey G. Mears of Austin, Texas took the documentary photographs of the San Antonio structures.